About Valley Water

Valley Water manages an integrated water resources system that includes the supply of clean, safe water, flood protection and stewardship of streams on behalf of Santa Clara County’s 2 million residents. Valley Water is the flood protection authority for Santa Clara County, annually preparing creeks for winter rains through levee maintenance, sediment removal, bank repair and vegetation management. We have invested more than $1 billion in flood protection efforts to protect nearly 100,000 parcels with many more projects planned.

Si habla español y tiene preguntas sobre el contenido de este mensaje por favor de comunicarse con José Villarreal al JVillarreal@valleywater.org o (408) 630-2879.

Nếu bạn nói tiếng Việt và có thắc mắc về nội dung của thông báo này, xin vui lòng liên hệ với Hoan Cutler tại HCutler@valleywater.org hoặc (408) 630-3135.

如果你說中文並對上述訊息有疑問，請聯繫 Julia Tat, 電郵JTat@valleywater.org 或者電話: (408) 630-3168.

Calabazas Creek Bank Rehabilitation Project

Erosion site along Calabazas Creek (June 2018)

valleywater.org
About the project and its benefits

The Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) is committed to reducing the risk of flooding to homes, businesses, and schools and improving the environment by performing work along creeks across Santa Clara County. This work includes removing sediment build-up, managing vegetation, clearing trash and debris and stabilizing banks that have eroded during high water flows. As part of this commitment, Valley Water will perform bank repairs and rehabilitation work in the City of Cupertino along Calabazas Creek between Miller Avenue and Bollinger Road.

Under the Calabazas Creek Bank Rehabilitation Project, Valley Water will repair and stabilize damaged creek bank sections along portions of Calabazas Creek to their as-built or natural condition. Specifically, the project would repair and stabilize eroding channel banks at ten locations along the creek through either the installation of rock riprap to reconstruct the bank or sheet pile walls. By doing this, this project will help:

- Minimize future bank failure and potential damage to nearby properties.
- Minimize impacts on water quality and riparian habitat associated with continued bank erosion.
- Reduce the need for on-going maintenance.
- Maintain the existing level of flood protection.

This project is made possible by funding from Valley Water’s Watershed Stream and Stewardship Fund.

Project background

This portion of Calabazas Creek features steep banks and several areas with minimal distance between the top of the bank and residential fence lines, which makes it vulnerable to bank erosion issues. In 2011, Valley Water completed construction on the Calabazas Creek Flood Protection Project along a 3.7 mile stretch of Calabazas Creek between Miller Avenue in Cupertino and Wardell Road in Saratoga. As part of that work, Valley Water repaired bank erosion along several sections of the creek that are also located within the current bank rehabilitation project area.

During recent inspections, Valley Water observed erosion, signs of bank failure and surfaces lacking cover from vegetation. Many of these issues were a result of the winter storms that occurred in late 2016 and early 2017. This project will fix these identified issues and their surrounding areas, which may include sites that overlap with the erosion repair sections previously identified in 2011.

Project schedule

Construction on the project is expected to begin in spring 2021 with completion by fall 2022. As the project approaches, Valley Water will be notifying the community of the updated project schedule and impacts.

Public feedback

Valley Water is welcoming public comment on the project’s California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Mitigated Negative Declaration, which describes the project and its environmental impacts in detail. The document will be available for public review and comment for 30 days beginning in late August or early September of 2020.

The public review period will be posted on the project page. For more details and to access the document link, please visit the project website at valleywater.org/CalabazasCreekRP.